

TRE MEN SLEW CRAFT.

Tobin, His Brother, and Empire Garden Bartender Held for the Sensational Murder.

PLOTTED FOUL CRIME.

The Ill-Fated Man Enticed to His Dreadful Death by Women, as Shown at the Inquest To-Day.

At the conclusion of the inquest on the body of Capt. Craft, whose head was cut off in the Empire dive in Twenty-ninth street, the coroner's jury returned a verdict holding Thomas Tobin, Alexander McInerney and Robert Kelly responsible for his death and committing them to the Tombs without bail. All the witnesses who were in the dive that morning were committed to the House of Detention.

A Chinese meat cleaver stained with human blood, the shoe for the right foot, which escaped the furnace, and the singed remnants of clothing hauled from the fire from which also the bodyless head was taken, were the few pieces of tangible evidence offered in the coroner's inquest into the death of Capt. James B. Craft, of Glen Cove, L. I., to-day.

Held as witnesses to this ghastly tragedy are three confessedly dissolute women—Mamie Turner, also known as Morro, who enticed the victim to the den where his head was chopped off; Ida Craven, who poses as the housekeeper of the Hotel Empire, being No. 28 in that row of notorious resorts running west from Broadway on Twenty-ninth street, and in whose place the murder occurred; and Grace Burnett, who was found asleep with a Massachusetts student in an upper room of the place.

Accused of Murder.
Held as prisoners are Thomas Tobin, who has served eighteen years of his forty-three years of life in prison, principally for being a burglar, and who is charged with having wielded the meat cleaver when it severed Craft's head from the body; Alexander McInerney, bartender in the dive, who first informed the police; Robert Kelly, porter in the place, who is Tobin's brother and who is believed by the police to have had a hand in the murder, and Jack Kelly, another brother, who has just been arrested and who was a waiter in the place.

That Craft was the victim of a conspiracy and that Tobin, as he has been known for many years and whose right name is Kelly, was not the only one involved in the theory of Capt. Sheehan.

Jack Kelly took Mamie Turner away from the Empire Hotel shortly before Craft was killed. She had been drinking with him. The police believe there was an object in getting the woman away from the place. When she left Capt. Craft he had a large roll of money.

The Inquest.
The inquest by the twelve jurors was under the direction of Coroner Jackson. Assistant District Attorney Garvan conducted the questioning, while Attorney Henry Unger represented Tobin and his two brothers, the Kellys. McInerney, although a prisoner, is the State's witness.

He declares that he saw Tobin strike Craft over the head with the cleaver and then drag the unconscious man down to the subcellar, at the foot of the stairs to which he saw Tobin chopping.

It was believed that Tobin and his two brothers would accuse McInerney of the murder.

The police give the Kellys a bad reputation, mentioning various terms in State prison and incidents which brought them in contact with the police.

Women Witnesses.
The three women witnesses were brought from the Tenderloin station with Jack Kelly, and they were placed in one corner of the court-room, where they held papers before their faces to ward off the photographers and photographers. They brazenly spoke of the lives they led and giggled over the coarse remarks made by Kelly before the inquest was started.

Tobin was brought in from the Tombs by Policeman Ziegler and was seated next to his brother, Robert Kelly. The latter is a tall, dark-eyed little fellow with long bony fingers and eyes which do not run on a line with each other.

Tobin, the accused man, was dressed for the occasion. He was attired in a new Prince Albert. His short black mustache was oiled and his iron-gray hair was cut. He looked more like a prosperous merchant than a murderer—a murderer who could cut off a head and then look at his body and chuck it in a furnace.

Greeting for Tobin.
While waiting for the inquest to commence Mamie Turner looked over to Tobin and called out across the court-room:

"Hello, Tommy!"

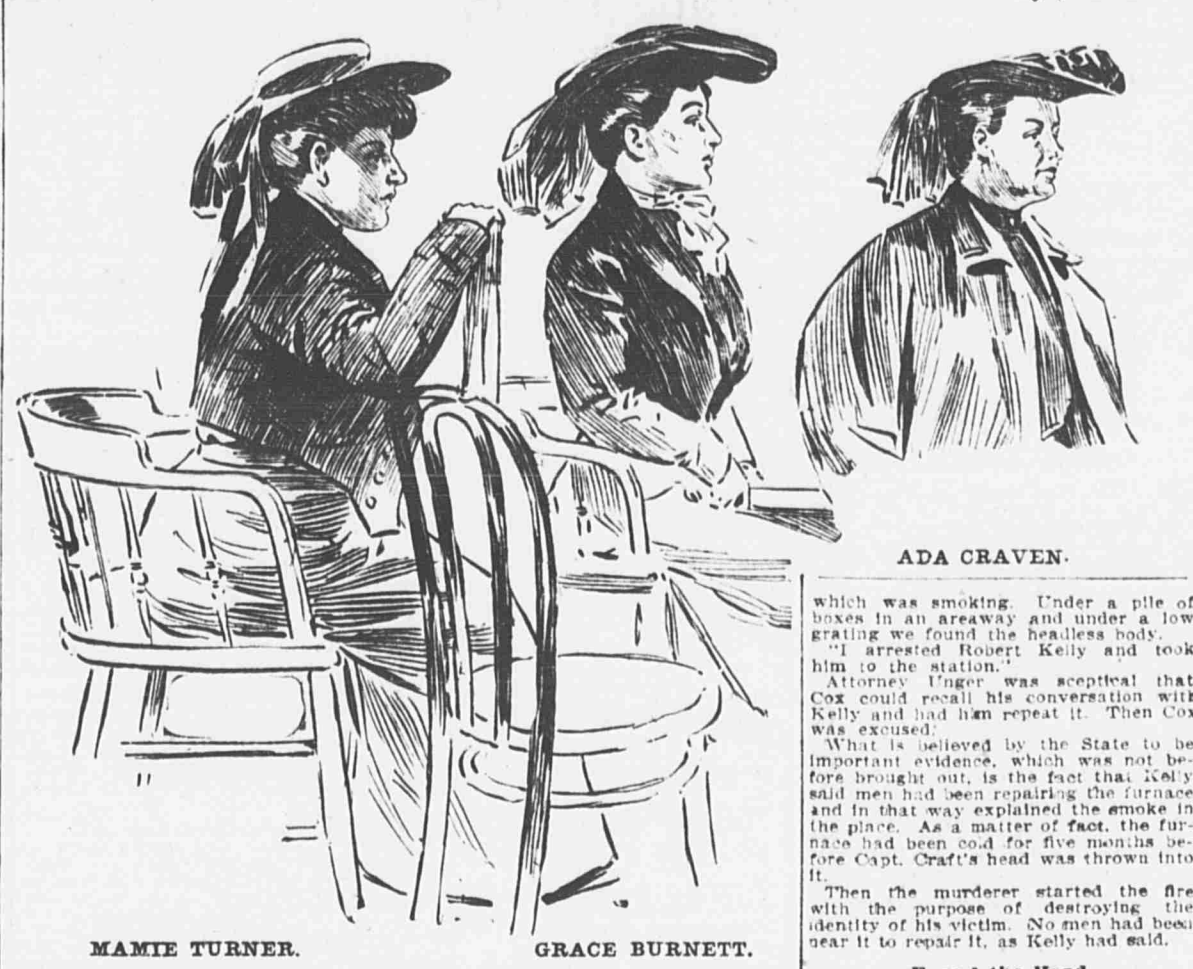
It was a cheerful call, but Tobin made no audible reply. He smiled as he twirled his mustache and lowered his head.

McInerney, nervous and pale, sat on the opposite side of Ziegler.

After the preliminaries he told of the message left at Headquarters by McInerney Saturday at 4 A. M., and which was telephoned to him, that a murder had been committed at No. 28 Twenty-ninth street, the notorious Hotel Empire.

Sheehan at the Scene.
"I rushed over there so fast you could play dominoes on my coat," said the Captain. "I took with me Officers Ziegler and Cox. I gathered other officers on the way, and when we got there I ordered every one under arms and then went to the subcellar."

THREE OF THE WOMEN WITNESSES AT THE CRAFT MURDER INQUEST.



MAMIE TURNER.

GRACE BURNETT.

huge pool of blood. The walls were splattered and it looked like a slaughter-house. A fire was burning in the furnace and I ordered that put out, and the officers extinguished it with seltzer water siphons.

"Searching the furnace, they drew out the charred head of the victim. In a cubby hole in the back cellar was the headless body of Capt. Craft, absolutely nude."

"We found Tobin hiding back of some curtains on the first floor. When searched at the station he had blood on the left sleeve of his shirt. In the setting of the ring on his left hand and on his trousers."

"Tobin would make no statement, except to an officer he said: 'So help me Jesus, if I cut that man's head off.'"

"We found the bloody cleaver and some remnants of clothing in the furnace, which had not been entirely burned."

Blood on McInerney.
In reply to Mr. Garvan Capt. Sheehan said blood had been found on a shirt which belonged to McInerney. He said it was only a small quantity and may have been caused by McInerney's pursuit of Tobin down the stairs.

"On Tobin we found," continued the Captain, "about \$30 in money. We found no other weapon on the premises except a small penknife."

Attorney Unger asked if he knew of any connection Robert Kelly had with the case and he said of his own knowledge he knew nothing except that he was a porter in the place.

Policeman Paul O. L. Ziegler was then called as a witness.

"I went to No. 28 West Twenty-ninth street and found Officers Cox and Heurck and Roundsman Curtin there. I was ordered to the lower part of the house. I went through the Chinese kitchen and found the pool of blood at the foot of the stairs and followed its trail around."

The Horrible Smoke.
"The smoke had a horrible stench. I closed the door again, and upon hearing a commotion upstairs I ran up. There was a large palm and under a lot of

chairs I found Tobin hiding. He pretended he was asleep."

"We arrested him, and then the other officers came downstairs with the other prisoners. At the station we found blood under his finger nails and on his clothes."

"Later I took Tobin back to the Empire Hotel, and there met the Coroner and an officer who had McInerney."

Attorney Unger objected to Ziegler telling what Tobin or McInerney said while under arrest. Coroner Jackson overruled the lawyer, and Ziegler was told to continue. Unger still objected and Mr. Garvan then argued and the Coroner interfered, telling Ziegler to proceed.

"This is what Tobin said," declared the policeman.

"I killed that man so help me Jesus! I could say a lot if I wanted to."

"Later I searched the sub-cellar and saw the 'red body, from which the head had only been cut off, but the chest hacked by the cleaver."

Horror of the Crime.
The officer went into the horrors of the tragedy, the finding of the head and the cleaver, continuing:

"On the way to the Tombs I saw blood on McInerney's trousers, also, and in the Tombs he was searched and blood spots found on his shirt and drawers."

Attorney Unger objected to the evidence as not being competent, but it was retained in the record.

Policeman Patrick Cox was next called. He retold the story related by Ziegler and Capt. Sheehan.

When I went to the place I found Robert Kelly on the sidewalk and asked him where the man was murdered. He pretended ignorance, saying no one had been killed."

"I asked him why the smoke was coming from the windows, and he said men had been cleaning the furnace and that was the smoke."

I decided to investigate and by that time an ambulance with a doctor from the New York Hospital arrived and we went to the building."

Blood in the Cellar.
"In the cellar we found a big pool of blood and went around the furnace."

DIES WITH CHILD'S BANK IN HIS HAND

Burns Had Quarrelled with Brother, but Friends Say His Asphyxiation Must Have Been Accidental.

John H. Burns, twenty-five years old, a saloon-keeper of Harrison, N. J., was found dead in bed today in a room in the Equitable Hotel, at Grand street and the Bowery. Death came from asphyxiation. The police say Burns turned on an unlighted gas jet in his room intentionally, but his friends say that it must have been accidental.

Burns had quarrelled with a brother with whom he was in business. He came to the city three days ago and went on a spree. Then the men were found and the bank was clutched in his hand. The bank was empty. There was 38 cents in Burns's pockets.

PRIEST DEAD.
CHICAGO, Oct. 1.—Rev. John C. Madden, pastor of St. Patrick's Catholic Church at Highland Park, and for twenty years priest of the Chicago archdiocese, is dead of Bright's disease.

MORE MOTOR "L" TRAINS.

The Sixth Avenue Elevated Road Now Has the Speedier, Safer System in Full Operation.

Electric trains were put into service for the first time this morning on the Sixth Avenue "L" road between the Fifty-eighth and Rector street stations, and traffic was in a great measure facilitated. The trains are the same type as those used in the initial trips. Three cars made up a train, two of them motor cars.

The trains were manned by crews taken from the Second and Third Avenue roads, familiar with their handling.

With the new service the officers of the "L" road expect to give additional accommodation to passengers, for a shorter time is required to stop and start than with the old trains.

It is claimed that the introduction of the new system will make "L" road travelling safer than under the old conditions. There will be more equal distribution of weight throughout the length of the train and therefore less strain on the elevated structure.

HUNDREDS PERISH IN SINKING SHIPS.

Returning Steamer Moana Brings Reports of Storms' Awful Havoc Along Australian Coast.

VICTORIA, B. C., Oct. 1.—The steamer Moana brings news of the loss of several Australian vessels during gales in the South Sea. The schooner Schill of Sydney, a recruiting vessel, left the Solomon Islands in April with 110 persons on board for Queensland, and was never heard of again. The steamer Quirang, of Sydney, was lost off the Australian coast with all hands, numbering thirty, never having been heard of after leaving Sydney on a coasting trip.

The Nambarre, a 2,000-ton steamer, belonging to Buris, Philip & Co. of Sydney, on the inter Island trade, was lost off the coast of Santos by stranding on a reef, but fortunately all hands were saved and taken to Noumea by the H. M. S. Phoebe. The schooner Eclipse was lost in the Solomon Islands and other Rouillac, a French priest, was drowned.

BOY MISSING WITH FIFTY-DOLLAR BILL

Doctor Sent His Messenger to Post-Office with "Yellow Back" and the Lad Disappeared.

Kempton J. Rich, sixteen years old, of No. 80 Amsterdam avenue, who was employed by Dr. Alexander Martin of No. 17 West Twenty-eighth street, disappeared on Sept. 25 after he had been entrusted with \$50 by Dr. Martin. His mother, because of the exemplary character of her son, believes that he has been waylaid for the money and is prevented from returning home.

Kempton had been employed by Dr. Martin, who is an eye specialist, about a month ago and went to him highly recommended. Last Thursday he gave a \$50 bill to the boy and sent him to the Madison Square Branch Post-Office to get stamps and change. Since then the boy has not been seen and inquiry at the post-office elicited the fact that he had not been there.

SUNDAY WORLD WANTS WORK MONDAY MORNING WONDERS.

ADA CRAVEN.

which was smoking. Under a pile of boxes in an alleyway and under a low grate we found the headless body of Capt. Craft."

"I arrested Robert Kelly and took him to the station."

Attorney Unger was sceptical that Cox could recall his conversation with Kelly and had him repeat it. Then Cox was excused.

What is believed by the State to be important evidence, which was not before brought out, is the fact that Kelly said men had been repairing the furnace and in that way explained the smoke in the place. As a matter of fact, the furnace had been out for five months before Capt. Craft's head was thrown into it.

Then the murderer started the fire with the purpose of destroying the identity of his victim. No men had been near it to repair it, as Kelly had said.

Found the Head.
Policeman Frank E. Converse was then called to the scene of the officers sent to the Empire Hotel. He said:

"Capt. Sheehan instructed us to put the fire in the furnace out, which we did with seltzer siphons. With a poker we found the charred head of a man in the furnace. It was not recognizable."

We also took the fragments of burned clothing from the furnace."

On a case one of the bosom of a blue shirt to which a sleeve was hanging. It was stained with blood."

Converse arrested one of the medical students."

Policeman John J. Daly was called to the scene of the same story as that told by Converse."

During the recital of these ghastly finds of the charred head and the headless body—Tobin craned his head and listened intently as though it were all new to him, and McInerney sat motionless, five feet from the body and a shaven pate and his lips twitching nervously."

McInerney's Fear.
When Policeman Converse was recalled to tell of the finding of the headless body, which Tobin's counsel wanted to fasten on McInerney, the bartender whispered to counsel and seemed greatly relieved when Converse said it was a white shirt with a fancy border."

Ziegler, recalled, identified the cleaver, the shoe, and the clothing."

Coroner's Physician O'Hanlon described the source of the body. He said the skull had been fractured and the head cut off between the fifth and sixth vertebrae."

Decapitated Alive.
"He was alive when his head was cut off," said the doctor.

"He was not poisoned," said the doctor. "I also believe he would have died if the time for the execution was withdrawn. Capt. Sheehan, of Engine Company No. 12, considered the wall dangerous."

A charge by Attorney John J. Delaney that Assistant Corporation Counsel Arthur F. Cosby is acting as adviser to Fire Commissioner Sturgis in the latter's rulings, precipitated hot discussion.

"Cosby, in the prosecution of this case, is not only acting as the adviser of the commissioner but more than that he is putting words into the mouths of witnesses," declared Delaney. "I emphatically object to his acting as adviser to the presiding judge. It is a glaring piece of injustice."

Cosby Denies It All.
Cosby retorted that Delaney was attempting to embarrass the case, adding:

"And I certainly resent his slurs and insinuations, all of which are unwarranted. I have never presumed in any sense to act as adviser to the Commissioner."

Commissioner Sturgis rapped for order and asserted that in his rulings he had followed no suggestions from the prosecuting officer.

Gustave Rudolph, city surveyor, testified that a few days ago he measured the height of the Park Avenue Hotel finding it to be 124 feet 2 inches on the outside, 102 feet 6 inches on the inside, and 124 feet 2 inches in the court."

Prosecution Gains a Point.
Thus the purpose of the prosecution to show that the wall was more than 100 feet in height and the hotel should have been protected by a stand-pipe was accomplished. Mr. Crosby thereupon announced the finish of the testimony on the first charge.

Lieut. John Hughes, of Engine Company No. 12, was called to testify on the second specification of the second charge, which accuses Chief Croker of incompetence at a fire at No. 465 East Tenth street Nov. 28, 1901, when the Chief ordered engines to return to quarters before the danger of the conflagration spreading had passed.

Hughes said the way to the fire his hose wagon broke down, and that when he arrived there, after delay, he was ordered back by the Chief.

"Did Chief Croker have anything to do with the wagon breaking down?" asked Mr. Delaney.

"Could you have been of any use at the fire with a broken wagon?" asked Mr. Delaney.

Croker Scores Again.
Lieut. Thomas Burns, of Hook and Ladder Company No. 11, testified that when the fire broke out he was ordered back by the same fire the fire seemed to be under control."

"There was nothing irregular in the order," he said.

Admiral Jonett Passes Away.
WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—Rear-Admiral James E. Jonett, U. S. N., retired, died at his home, "The Anchorage," Silver Springs, Md., at an early hour this morning. He was seventy-four years old and had a long and distinguished career.

He was born in Kentucky, was appointed in the Navy from that State and was retired in 1890.

CROKER PROVES HE WAS HONEST.

Many Witnesses Show Fire Chief Did Not Falsify Report as Alleged.

MR. STURGIS IS ACCUSED

Attorney Delaney Declares Commissioner Takes Advice in Rulings from the Prosecutor—Both Deny It.

Developments at to-day's trial of Fire Chief Croker caused to fall flat the charge that he falsified reports sent to Commissioner Scannell concerning the water supply at the Wicks fire.

Various captains testified that the pressure was so low during the last half of the fire that they could not get the water above the third story.

"The pressure was very bad—there was hardly any water at all," testified Capt. John Farley, of Engine Company No. 12.

"Why didn't you say this in your report?" demanded Commissioner Sturgis.

"Because we get our pressure data from the engineer, and I went by that," answered Farley. Lieut. John J. Farley, of Hook and Ladder Company No. 20, stated that at the Tenth street fire the men were warned by Croker to get away from the west wall a few minutes before it fell.

Walls Fall by Will of God.
Prosecutor Cosby asked whether it was not usual for another wall to fall after a first had given way.

"Walls fall by the will of God—no man knows when they are going to fall," was Farley's reply.

Capt. Patrick Hanbury, of Hook and Ladder Company No. 10, reported the most independent man in the department and regarded as a reliable witness, gave it as his opinion that the north wall looked perfectly safe and that the fire was well under control when the engines were ordered to return to quarters. He said he considered the order a perfectly proper one.

Similar expressions were made by Lieut. John Blummann, Hook and Ladder Company No. 20, and by Lieut. Cor. Hook and Ladder Company No. 5.

Rear Wall in Good Shape.
Lieut. Barton J. Galvin, Assistant Foreman of Engine Company No. 33, who, with five men, was on the roof of the Standard Oil Company's warehouse when the tank exploded, was a favorable witness to the chief.

He testified that the rear wall seemed in good condition when the engines were withdrawn. Capt. Sheehan, of Engine Company No. 12, considered the wall dangerous.

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HOW HE LOOKED FOR A POOL ROOM.

Policeman Downes Found Nothing to Arouse His Suspicion During Investigation.

SAW BUTTON AND BUZZER

Accused Patrolman Admits Seeing the Peephole in the Door, but Thought Nothing of It.

The cross-examination of Patrolman John H. Downes, of the East Eighty-eighth street station, on trial at Police Headquarters for alleged failure to close and aiding in the maintaining of an alleged gambling-house in East Eighty-third street, was begun to-day.

Mr. Morgan asked Downes what methods he employed in looking for a pool-room at No. 1556 Third avenue, which was one of the places named by the prosecution as an alleged pool-room.

Witness said he went into the rooms on the ground floor and looked around. He saw nothing and asked the saloon-keeper for the key to the apartment upstairs. In his investigation he saw nothing to excite his suspicions and no evidence that gambling had ever been carried on.

Saw Button and Buzzer.
"Did you see a push button in a room on the third floor?" asked Mr. Morgan.

"Yes, I did," the witness answered. "Did you see a buzzer there?"

"Yes, I did."

"Did you see a telephone in that room?"

"Yes, but it was disconnected. I tried to use it and could not."

"And did you notice a hole in the door leading from the hallway, about the size of a man's fist?"

"I did," replied the witness, "but I didn't think anything of it at the time." Witness further said he had made no notes or memorandum after his visit to No. 1556 Third avenue because he saw nothing that in any way was suspicious.

Yes, He Could Be Aroused.
Downes was then shown pieces of torn racing cards and asked if they would excite his suspicions in any way, and much to the gratification of Mr. Morgan, the witness replied that they would.

"But only," the witness added, "if the floor was covered with them would I excite my suspicion very much."

"Did you ever see a pool-room?" asked Mr. Morgan.

"No, you go on!"

"No, it was in a barn and one could see it from the street."

"And that's all you know of what a pool-room looks like?"

"That's the only time in my life I knew of such a place," replied the witness. Mr. Morgan walked to the window and looked intently at a blank wall for several minutes.

Downes then told of his visit to the William E. Reilly Association in search of a source of gambling. He said he first visited Mr. Reilly and explaining to him that he was a policeman and that he was there to investigate the gambling in the city, he was told that he should go to the William E. Reilly Association and that he found no evidence of gambling after several visits to the place.

"How many times did you visit the Reilly Association?" asked Mr. Morgan.

Never Made Any Notes.
"Repeatedly. I don't know the number of times."

"You never made any memorandum of your visits there?"

"I saw nothing to excite my suspicions."

The third place alleged to be a pool room was the one in the basement of the Standard Oil Company's warehouse. Downes said he also visited this address, but saw no evidence of gambling and did not make any notes or memorandum for the same reason.

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